EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

Procedure No: FR-SFTY-8.0.4

Revision No: 1

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Title: OPERATION OF FIRE/RESCUE GROUP VEHICLES

1.0 **PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 It is the policy of the Fire/Rescue Group that all vehicles be operated in a safe and prudent manner in accordance with the traffic regulations of New York State and the specific provisions of this procedure.
- 1.2 This procedure establishes supplemental requirements for Fire/Rescue Group members in addition to the vehicle and traffic laws of New York State.

2.0 **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- 2.1 Individual members are responsible for adhering to the provisions of this procedure
- 2.2 Drivers of Fire/Rescue Group vehicles shall be directly responsible for safe and prudent operation under all conditions. When the driver is under the direct supervision of an officer, that officer shall also assume responsibility for the actions of the driver.
- 2.3 Drivers shall not move Fire/Rescue Group vehicles until all persons on the vehicle are seated and secured with seat belts or in approved riding positions, other than as specifically allowed in Section 6 of this procedure

3.0 **DEFINITIONS:**

None

4.0 **PREREQUISITES:**

None

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5.0 **PRECAUTIONS:**

None

6.0 **PROCEDURE:**

- During non-emergency travel, drivers of Fire/Rescue Group vehicles shall obey all traffic control signals and signs, all laws and rules of the road, and all BNL parking regulations.
- During emergency response, drivers of Fire/Rescue Group vehicles shall bring the vehicle to a complete stop at all red traffic lights, stop signs, negative right-of-way street intersections and, blind intersections. When the driver cannot account for all lanes of traffic in a intersection, or when other intersection hazards are present. When in doubt as to the safety of proceeding, the driver shall bring the vehicle to a complete stop. Drivers shall proceed through intersections only when they can account for all lanes of traffic in the intersection. Drivers shall always operate with due regard for the safety of all personnel.
- 6.3 All persons riding on fire apparatus shall be seated in approved riding positions and secured to the vehicle by seat belts at any time the vehicle is in motion. Riding on tailsteps, sidesteps, running boards, or in any other exposed positions is prohibited. Standing while riding is prohibited.

6.3.1 Exceptions

- 6.3.1.1 Members actively performing necessary emergency medical care in the ambulance while the vehicle is in the motion shall be secured to the vehicle by a seat belt or by a safety harness designed for occupant restraint, to the extent consistent with the effective provision of such emergency medical care. All other persons in the vehicle shall be seated and belted in approved riding positions while the vehicle is in motion.
- 6.3.1.2 Hose loading operations are permitted to be performed on moving fire apparatus only when all of the following conditions are complied with:
 - (a) The officer shall appoint a member, other than those loading hose, as a safety observer. The safety observer shall have an unobstructed view of the hose loading operation and be in visual and voice contact with the apparatus operator.
 - (b) Non-emergency vehicular traffic shall be excluded from the area or shall be under the control of authorized traffic control persons.
 - (c) The fire apparatus shall only be driven in a forward direction at a speed of 5 MPH or less.

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- (d) No members shall be allowed to stand on the tailsteps, sidesteps, running boards, or any other location on the apparatus while the apparatus is in motion.
- (e) Members shall be allowed in the hose bed, but shall not stand while the apparatus is in motion.
- (f) Prior to the beginning of each hose loading operation, the situation shall be evaluated to ensure compliance with all the provisions of this procedure. If the procedure cannot be complied with, or if there is any question as to the safety of the operation for the specific situation, then the hose shall not be loaded in this manner.

7.0 IMPLEMENTATION AND TRAINING

None

8.0 **REFERENCES:**

8.1 This procedure is intended to implement, in part, the requirements of NFPA 1500-1992, Sections 4-2 and 4-3.

9.0 **ATTACHMENTS**

None